

BACK GROUND OF INVENTION

The present invention relates to a hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit to boost the output power of a multi-carrier wireless RF power amplifier. The hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit input could be baseband, intermediate frequency (IF), or RF signal, and its output is the peak-to-average reduced RF signal as a new input to the amplifier. In any wireless communication system one of the critical components is the power amplifier. This component has a major contribution in cost, power consumption, and size of the system. The main reason is the requirement of wireless radio communication system for linear power amplifiers. The higher the linearity, the higher the power consumption, cost and size. In order to minimize the cost, size and power consumption there is a need for techniques that overcome this problem. This invention conquers these challenges by using a simple and accurate hybrid peak-to-average reduction module used at the input to the power amplifier.

SUMMARY OF INVENTION

According to the invention, a low-cost RF hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit, for use with multi-carrier RF power amplifier, uses a plurality of simple and accurate circuits in conjunction with intelligent signal processing to improve power handling of the multi-carrier RF power amplifier. By intelligent, it is meant that the hybrid peak-to-average reduction module has features of adaptability to the input samples, such as ability to consider the changes due to samples amplitude and phase. The hybrid peak-to-average reduction module uses the amplifier input which could be a baseband, an IF or RF signal as its input and condition the input before applying to the multi-carrier amplifier. The conditioning or hybrid peak-to-average reduction helps to boost the power handling of the amplifier or acts more linearly. The conditioning is based on a hybrid technique that utilizes both amplitude clipping and phase rotation using pre-defined parameters stored

in a lookup table for peak-to-average reduction. The inputs to the hybrid peak-to-average reduction should be within a limit that can be handled by the hybrid peak-to-average reduction module.

In a particular embodiment, the hybrid peak-to-average reduction unit comprises a multi-carrier transmitter, a multi-carrier broadband receiver, a signal processing, and a clock generator. The receiver converts the baseband, IF, or RF signal to digital baseband. The transmitter converts the digital baseband signal to RF. The signal processor performs the signal conditioning as well as performs the initial calibration, and transmitter and receiver control.

The invention will be better understood by reference to the following detailed description in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is an overall block diagram of the a power amplifier with a booster using hybrid peak-to-average reduction

FIG. 2 is the block diagram of the hybrid peak-to-average reduction module

FIG. 3 is the block diagram of the digital processing unit of hybrid peak-to-average reduction module

FIG. 4 is the block diagram of the digital signal processing block performing the hybrid peak-to-average reduction

FIG. 5 is the detail block diagram of hybrid peak-to-average reduction

DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIFIC EMBODIMENTS

In a first preferred embodiment the hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit monitors the signal strength of the multi-carrier input signal channels using the input receiver and finds the frequency and channel number of the input signals. In a second preferred embodiment of the invention, the hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit uses sub-harmonic sampling to convert multi-carrier RF or IF signals to digital baseband signal. In a third preferred embodiment the input signal is conditioned or peak suppressed using the amplitude clipping and phase rotation. The peak-to-average reduction using phase rotation is based on data stored in a lookup table and an algorithm to define the final phase rotation for individual carriers. The peak-to-average reduced signal is then transmitted to the amplifier. In a fourth embodiment the input signal is used to create the lookup table. In a fifth embodiment the digital baseband signal is amplitude clipped and then down converted to produce the individual carrier baseband signal. In a six embodiment the individual baseband signals are phase rotated using the associated lookup table phase before being individually filtered and up converted to reconstruct the multi-carrier digital baseband signal. In a seventh embodiment the multi-carrier baseband signal before being applied to phase rotation block is applied to the phase rotation algorithm block to construct the peak-to-average reduction phase rotation lookup table.

Referring to Figure 1, a hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit diagram is illustrated. The system receives its inputs from wireless transmitter 100. The output of the hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit 200 is applied to the input of the power amplifier. The hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit performs the following functions:

1. Find the frequencies and channel numbers of the multi-carrier wireless transmitter output 100.
2. Reduce the peak-to-average of the input signal 100 before applying to amplifier.
3. Use the amplitude clipped signal to create the phase rotation lookup table

4. Adaptively adjust the gain in the signal paths to keep the total gain from input to output of the hybrid peak-to-average reduction zero.

Figure 2 illustrates the detail block diagram of the hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit unit. The received signal from multi-carrier wireless transmitter 100 is applied to multi-carrier receiver 201 to produce signal 400. The output of the multi-carrier receiver 201 is applied to signal processing block 202 for digital signal processing which is hybrid peak-to-average reduction and creation of the phase rotation lookup table for peak-to-average reduction. The output of signal processing block 202 the peak-to-average reduced signal 401 is applied to multi-carrier transmitter 203 to create the input signal 101 for the multi-carrier power amplifier. Clock generator 205 produces all the clocks necessary for the peak-to-average reduction circuit and the power supply block 204 produce all the voltages necessary for the peak-to-average reduction circuit.

Figure 3 shows the detail block diagram of the hybrid peak-to-average reduction signal processing block 202. The receiver block 201 output 400 is applied to analog to digital converter (in case the signal is RF, IF, and baseband) block 500 to produce the digital signal 410. If the signal is RF or IF the analog to digital conversion is based on sub-harmonic sampling. The output of the analog to digital converter 500 is applied to the down / up converter block 501 to produce down converted and decimated (multi-carrier baseband) signal 411 which is “m” times the symbol rate of the input signal 100 applied to receiver 201. In case the signal is a multi-carrier baseband signal the down / up converter function will not be used, however the baseband signal may need to be interpolated or decimated to produce the right number of samples per symbols. If the signal is baseband but in bit format the up conversion function of 501 is used. The signal is converted to symbol domain with desired samples per symbol first and then each channel is up converted to its baseband frequency to produce multi-carrier baseband signal 411. The signal 411 is applied to DSP block 502 for hybrid peak-to-average reduction and produce signal 412. The peak-to-average reduced signal 412 is applied to up converter and interpolator 503 to produce the up converted and interpolated signal 413. Signal 413 is applied to digital to analog converter 504 to produce the analog signal 401 for the multi-carrier transmitter block 203.

Figure 4 shows the block diagram of the hybrid peak-to-average reduction block 502. The multi-carrier baseband signal 411 from the main multi-carrier receiver is amplitude clipped by block 510 to produce the amplitude clipped signal 420. The amplitude clipped multi-carrier signal 420 is converted to single carrier baseband signals by block 511 to produce the baseband representative of each individual carrier. The single carrier baseband signal 421 is then phase rotated according to a specified phase by a pre-defined phase in block 512. The pre-defined phase is taken from the peak-to-average reduction lookup table block 515. The data in lookup table 515 is generated by a phase rotation algorithm. The individual phase rotated single carrier baseband signals 422 are filtered by filter block 513 to produce the phase rotated and filtered signals 423. The phase rotated and filtered signals 423 are applied to block 514 to reconstruct the multi-carrier baseband signal 412.

Figure 5 shows the detail block diagram of the hybrid peak-to-average reduction circuit. The multi-carrier baseband signal 411 from the receiver is applied to block 510 to produce the amplitude clipped multi-carrier signal 420. The amplitude clipped multi-carrier baseband signal 420 is applied to down converters 601, 602, and 603 to produce the baseband signal of each carrier 701, 711, and 721. The second input to down converters 601, 602, and 603 are supplied by NCOs 651, 652, and 653. The baseband representative of each carrier then is applied to Low Pass Filters (LPF) 611, 612, and 613 to filter unwanted signals. The baseband representative of each carrier 702, 712, and 722 are then phase rotated by blocks 621, 622, 623 to produce the amplitude limited and phase rotated signals 703, 713, and 723. The amount of phase rotation is defined by blocks 661, 662, and 663. The amount of phase rotation is calculated from the output of 611, 612, and 613. The amplitude limited and phase rotated baseband signals 703, 713 and 723 are applied to low pass filters 631, 632, and 633 to produce amplitude limited, phase rotated and filtered baseband signals 704, 714 and 724. The low pass filters 631, 632, and 633 filter the adjacent unwanted energy in the baseband signals 703, 713, and 723. The amplitude limited, phase rotated, and low pass filtered baseband signals 704, 714, and 724 are up converted to their original multi-carrier baseband frequency by up converter blocks 641, 642, and 643. The other signal used by up converter is supplied by NCOs 671, 672, and 673. The up converted signals 705, 715, and 725 are then combined

in block 600 to produced the new multi-carrier baseband signal 412. In figure 5 only a multi-carrier with 3 carrier is shown. This approach can be applied to unlimited number of carriers.